



Kamanda's son sentenced to death for murder

LUSAKA (AP) — President Kenneth Kamanda's youngest son was sentenced to death Monday for killing a young woman. The victim's tearful father, Goliath Mwana, told a reporter outside the high court afterwards, "I'm not even feeling good because my child is not alive. I will only feel better after that man is hanged." Kenneth Kamanda was not in the high court at the time the sentence was announced. He has made no public pronouncements about the case. If Kenneth Kamanda wins presidential elections scheduled Oct. 31, he could, under the constitution, pardon his son. Judge Claver Msimbali earlier turned to Kamanda Kamanda, 27, in the dock and declared, "... I order that you are hanged by the neck until you are pronounced dead." The court found that Kamanda Kamanda had, on the night of Sept. 3, 1989, drawn a pistol and shot dead Tabitha Mwana, 20. The judge rejected Mr. Kamanda's defense that his car was surrounded by an angry mob and that he fired to protect himself and a friend. The young Kamanda, wearing dark glasses, stared impassively back at the judge before raising his hand in the V-for-victory salute of his father's ruling United National Independence Party. Prison officers then led him away to the cells to await the outcome of an application for appeal.

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Major meets Musa in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — British Prime Minister John Major met with senior Egyptian officials Monday during a brief stop on his way to Zimbabwe for a conference of Commonwealth nations. Mr. Major met for 45 minutes with Amr Minya, Egypt's foreign minister, at Cairo airport. The meeting came shortly after Mr. Musa saw off U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, who flew to Amman. "Concerning the peace conference, it is something we have wished to see for a long time," Mr. Major told reporters.

118 detainees and POWs repatriated

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Eight prisoners of war (POWs) and a group of 110 civilians stuck in Iraq for months were repatriated to Kuwait Monday. Sources at the government-run National Committee for the Missing and the POWs said the detainees arrived by plane early this morning from the Saudi border town of Aqar, where they had been released by Iraq. The eight POWs were all Saudis who lived in the emirate before Iraq's Aug. 2, 1990 invasion. The 110 civilians included Kuwaiti nationals, stateless Arabs, a Syrian man and Sri Lankan woman.

Moroccan forces leave Gulf

NICOSIA (R) — Moroccan forces which joined the U.S.-led alliance to oust Iraq from Kuwait in the early days of the Gulf crisis left Abu Dhabi Monday for home, the United Arab Emirates news agency (WAM) said. King Hassan sent a symbolic unit of 1,200 soldiers to the Gulf but they were not involved in combat.

Iran executes 28

NICOSIA (R) — Twenty-eight convicted drug traffickers, including two Afghans and four women, were executed in the northeast Iranian city of Mashhad Monday, the Iranian news agency IRNA said. Since the beginning of the Iranian year in March, 152 drug traffickers have now been executed in Mashhad, added the agency. Executions in Iran are usually by hanging.

Pakistan court frees 2 American brothers

PESHAWAR (AP) — The supreme court Monday threw out an Islamic court conviction and spared two American Muslim brothers sentenced to have their right hands and left feet cut off for theft. The high court rejected the prosecutor's arguments that Charles Boyd, 29, and his brother Daniel, 25, had stolen 80,000 rupees (\$3,200) from a suburban bank.

Denktaş party wins bye-elections

NICOSIA (R) — The ruling National Unity Party (NUP) in breakaway north Cyprus has won 10 out of 12 parliamentary seats in a weekend bye-election, officials said Monday. The NUP, led by Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş, now has 45 of the parliament's 50 seats. Sunday's bye-election was boycotted by three parties which accused the administration of pursuing undemocratic policies. About half of the 105,000 eligible voters turned out.

Moscow to cut troops on Kurile Islands

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union is to reduce by one-third its military forces on four islands claimed by Japan, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday. Vitaly Churkin, speaking at a news briefing, estimated the total force on the islands at 7,000 to 8,000 men.

Shamir to address European Parliament

BRUSSELS (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will address the European Parliament in Strasbourg on Oct. 22, the Israeli embassy said Monday.

King satisfied, confident and hopeful after talks with Baker

U.S. secretary confident peace conference on schedule

By Marianne M. Shashin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein said after talks with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker that he was satisfied with the final draft of the U.S. letter of assurance to Jordan ahead of the planned Middle East peace conference and that he felt satisfied, hopeful and confident as the first Arab-Israeli peace talks loomed nearer.

The King, addressing reporters after a joint press conference with Mr. Baker, described the secretary of state's current visit as "very, very important" and said the discussions in Amman covered "the developments

so far, which are very promising and very positive."

Mr. Baker, who arrived here from Cairo on the second leg of his eighth Middle East shuttle since March, said the Palestinians may be missing a historic opportunity to be involved in determining their future if they chose not to participate in the peace talks.

"The bus is not going to come by again," Mr. Baker said, in a reaffirmation of his argument that it was the Palestinians that had the most to lose and the most to gain by the success of the proposed peace conference.

"This is an important time," said Mr. Baker, who has been trying to convince all parties into attending the peace conference, called for by U.S.

President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and expected to be held this month.

"We will know within a reasonably short period of time whether we will have an active peace process in this region or not," Mr. Baker said.

Secretary Baker reiterated that Jordan had been the most positive and serious party involved in the American-led efforts for peace in the region. "I don't think anybody, Your Majesty, has been more courageous in their support of peace, has been more forward-thinking or more helpful than you Sir," he said in addressing the King.

"I don't think there can be an active and viable peace process looking toward a comprehensive settle-

ment or peace between Arabs and Israelis without your active and strong support and participation and I am delighted, Your Majesty, and...we are grateful for that participation, we value the participation," he added.

In his opening remarks, the King said:

"I would like to say how happy I am to have this opportunity to welcome my dear friend Secretary Baker again and his colleagues. We have followed...the efforts you have made for the establishment of a process leading to a just and durable peace in the region. You have our admiration and respect...for your sincere

(Continued on page 5)

Wednesday's PLO Central Council expected to endorse joint delegation

West Bank Palestinians might see Baker today

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Central Council has been called to session in Tunis Wednesday and is expected to authorize Palestinian participation at the proposed American-sponsored Middle East peace conference within a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, Palestinian officials said Monday.

The PLO officials said that the

broad meeting of Palestinian personalities was being held in the Israeli-occupied West Bank to discuss sending delegates to Amman and choose the personalities who will arrive tomorrow.

But well-informed sources in the West Bank, reached by phone through the U.S., told the Jordan Times that a leading Palestine political activist, Radwan Abu Ayyash, was on his way to Amman from New York.

The PLO officials said that the

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has approved sending Palestinian personalities from the occupied territories to Amman in response to a condition put forward by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

The officials said that the per-

sonalities will come to Amman to

authorised by the Palestine National Council (PNC) officials, who arrived here from Tunis Sunday and Monday. But one official said: "We are not sure how this will take place. The Palestinian personalities might meet Jordanian officials separately or along with PLO officials."

The PLO, the officials said, is concerned that any meeting in Amman should be held and presented as part of coordination between the PLO and the Jordanian government.

"It has to be clear that the PLO cannot be just pushed out of the picture. All meetings will be held by the approval of the PLO and within the context of coordination between Jordan and the PLO," a PLO official said.

The PLO, however, is still trying to ensure and insisting on

(Continued on page 5)

Sanctions Committee studies plan to monitor Iraqi oil

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)

— The Security Council's Sanctions Committee was Monday considering plans to monitor Iraq's future oil flows that would include three Norwegian experts reviewing each contract between Baghdad and its buyers, diplomats said.

The Norwegians would be seconded to the United Nations to approve or turn down contracts on the spot rather than refer them first to the Sanctions Committee. They will work on a 24-hour basis in eight hour shifts.

Under Security Council regulations monitoring Iraq's future oil sales, the Sanctions Committee has to approve all contracts in order to control the revenues from each delivery.

"This proved to be impractical as decisions in the oil business will have to be made quickly so designated experts will make the decision on the spot and then inform the committee," said one envoy on the committee, who spoke to Reuter on condition of anonymity.

(Continued on page 5)

IRAQ (AP) — A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday he was optimistic the Soviet Union and Israel could restore full diplomatic relations before the end of the month.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Vitaly Churkin did not give a specific date for restoration of diplomatic ties with Israel but said preparations would be made during the visit later this week to Israel by Foreign Minister Boris Pankin.

Mr. Pankin will travel to Israel Thursday to discuss the Middle East peace conference and meet Friday with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, Mr. Churkin said. Mr. Pankin also will travel to Syria, Jordan and Egypt during the six-day trip to the Middle East, he said.

It is my hope and understanding that it could happen by the end of the month," he said.

Mr. Pankin said last week that the main goal of his trip is to lay the groundwork for the peace conference that is to be co-sponsored by the Soviet Union and the United States.

It will be Mr. Pankin's first visit to the region since being named foreign minister Aug. 28 after the failed coup against President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Our states have made significant progress in establishing con-

tacts," Mr. Churkin said. "Our goal, and we never hid this goal, is to approach the establishment of full-scale diplomatic relations."

"It being such an important step, we would like to see it happen at the most propitious time," Mr. Churkin said. "It is our feeling that sometime on the eve of the peace conference would be a time when such a step would be properly understood by all and would serve the purpose of advancing Soviet-Israeli relations and peace in the Middle East."

"It is my hope and understanding that it could happen by the end of the month," he said.

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"Our states have made significant progress in establishing con-

Hostage breakthrough tip marred by new kidnap claim

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A breakthrough in the seven-year-old Middle East hostage drama seemed at hand with the return of a U.N. troubleshooter to the region, diplomats and political sources said Monday.

"We expect a breakthrough in the hostage crisis with the arrival of (U.N. envoy) Giandomenico Picco," a pro-Syrian source told Reuters. "A Western hostage could be released soon."

Mr. Picco, a top aide to U.N. Secretary-General Javier De Cuellar, arrived in Damascus from New York Sunday to push forward a deal to swap Western hostages and six Israeli servicemen held in Lebanon for more than 300 Arabs jailed by Israel.

His return to the Middle East prompted renewed speculation that the next to be freed would be U.S. hostage Joseph Cicippio, seized by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation (RJO) in 1986.

In Tehran, the English-speaking

language Tehran Times reported a U.S. hostage could be freed soon. "Maybe one American will go home soon if no unforeseen incidents take place as happened before," it said.

But an underground faction using a welter of confusing names claimed in two phone calls Monday that an Israeli soldier has been kidnapped and would be traded for prisoners held by the Israeli.

The claims, made two hours apart in phone calls to Western news agencies, could not be independently verified.

Kidnap groups often include a photograph of one of their victims to verify their written statements. No such photograph or written statement appeared.

An Israeli army spokesman said, "We don't have any information indicating this is true... we are checking out the story." The anonymous callers pur-

ported to speak for a group called Hizbullah-Palestine.

The first Arabic-speaking caller at about 9 a.m. (0700 GMT) identified the alleged kidnap victim as Yacov Samir Yitzhak and said details of how and where he was abducted would be revealed in later communiques.

The caller warned Israeli authorities against mounting a search-and-arrest campaign, saying "this would reflect adversely on the safety of the prisoner."

The motive behind his capture is to trade him for a number of the Mujahideen held in the enemy's jails. We shall later specify their number," the caller said and hung up.

The caller said in introducing himself that the statement was issued by Hizbullah-Palestine, formerly Hizbullah-Beit Al Maqdis (Jerusalem).

After the release of British

hostage John McCarthy in August, a group calling itself Hizbullah-Palestine said it was holding an Israeli prisoner, never confirmed. It said then that families holding Western hostages should refrain from trading them until its own brethren were released.

Hizbullah Jerusalem had claimed several rocket attacks earlier this year against the Israeli-occupied zone in Lebanon. The name change could reflect a split in the group, or a whim on the part of the caller.

The second caller said it was a smaller group within Hizbullah-Palestine that kidnapped the Israeli — the martyr Sabre Hilou group, Battalion of the Martyr Lovers.

"We remain hopeful that the process through which all hostages and prisoners will be freed is moving forward," one Western diplomat said.

The diplomats had no information on "what kind of offer" Mr. Picco brought with him. Mr. Picco has in the past two weeks held talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and with Israel's hostages troubleshooter Uri Lubrani.

their bases and warned against any rescue attempt. He also said the names of the Arabs who wanted to be released would be announced later.

The seizure, if confirmed, could complicate Mr. Picco's efforts to arrange the swap of hostages for Arab prisoners.

But Western diplomats expected Mr. Picco's visit to Damascus — a key player in the hostage saga — "to bear fruit." They said Mr. Picco was expected to come to Beirut.

"We remain hopeful that the process through which all hostages and prisoners will be freed is moving forward," one Western diplomat said.

The diplomats had no information on "what kind of offer" Mr. Picco brought with him. Mr. Picco has in the past two weeks held talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and with Israel's hostages troubleshooter Uri Lubrani.

"Reporters might have mistaken regular reconnaissance flights for air attacks. Such flights are still being continued in the border region," the official said.

Spanish foreign minister arrives

AMMAN (I.T.) — Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez arrived here on a 24-hour visit to Jordan Monday during which he held political, economic and commercial talks with Prime Minister Taha Ma'ali, Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber and other high-level officials. Mr. Fernandez Ordóñez flew in from Syria's second stop of a tour which also took him to Iraq. Among the topics to be discussed, the Spanish official said in an arrival statement, are the ongoing efforts to convene a Middle East peace conference which Washington hopes to convene before the end of the month. The visit coincides with a swing through the region by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker who is trying to eliminate obstacles before invitations to the conference could be issued. Mr. Fernandez Ordóñez underlined Jordan's key role in the peace process. During a meeting with the Spanish guest in Damascus earlier, Syrian President Hafez Al Assad stressed the importance of "the international community's participation to enforce international legitimacy in the region." He renewed his call for a "European role in current peace efforts." Mr. Fernandez Ordóñez said Spain was not involved in the conference except through the European Community's decisions related to the Arab-Israeli conflict.



His Majesty King Hussein greets U.S. Secretary of State James Baker at the Royal Palace Monday and later (photo below) heads the Jordanian delegation to official talks with an American delegation led by the secretary (photos by Yousef Al 'Allam)



Israelis seal 3 W. Bank homes

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R

Saddam goes on counter-attack against sanctions

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has launched a counter-attack against trade sanctions he says are orchestrated by the United States to strangle Iraq.

"The battle is out over. What is over is merely the attacks by the unjust, infidel forces led by the USA," he told delegates at a conference of solidarity with Iraq.

Using some of his strongest language since the Gulf crisis, the Iraqi leader appealed to ordinary Arabs to get their governments to break the embargo, imposed by the United Nations 13 months ago to punish Baghdad for invading Kuwait.

His speech appeared to mark a new phase in Iraq's struggle to get the sanctions lifted by rallying the support of ordinary Arabs over the heads of reluctant governments.

He said ordinary Egyptians and Syrians, who took part in the U.S.-led coalition which defeated Iraq, would never have agreed to attack Iraqis if they had had the choice.

"Had Arab lands and Arab waters not been put at his disposal as an arena for the operations, (U.S. President George Bush) wouldn't have dared fire the first shell against Arabs and Muslims," he said.

He said the Iraqis were still proud of the war, which ended last February, that saw Iraqi forces pushed from Kuwait after a seven-month occupation.

"Your brethren in Iraq made great sacrifices, but they regret nothing because they believe in their struggle," he told the Arab delegates.

"The calls for ending the sanctions should begin with in the Arab and Islamic countries themselves. Let every citizen in that country demand that the siege against Iraq be ended," President Saddam said.

"The appeals should not be directed to the United Nations, but the Arab rulers," he said.

Palestinian leaders say little progress achieved in Baker talks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Two leading Palestinian peace negotiators returned from Washington Sunday night saying they made little progress on resolving the final obstacles to a U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace conference.

Faisal Al Husseini and Hanan Ashrawi, who live in the occupied Arab territories, met U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to discuss how Palestinians would be represented at the conference, the thorniest issue plaguing Mr. Baker's efforts to convene peace talks.

"There was not enough progress," Mr. Husseini told Reuters.

He said three main problems remained — self-determination for Palestinians, Jewish settlements and Arab East Jerusalem.

Palestinians want the United States to endorse their right to self-determination and to press Israel to freeze rapidly expanding Jewish settlement in the occupied territories.

Israel wants to bar Arabs from East Jerusalem from the talks so as not to call into question its claim of sovereignty over the entire city.

For Palestinians, Arab East Jerusalem is the centre of their social, economic and political life. They consider it the site of their future capital should they achieve an independent state.

The Palestinians, who have waged a nearly four-year-old intifada against Israel rule, feel bitter that the United States has adopted most of Israel's terms for the conference.

They want U.S. assurances the conference will be based on the principle of Israel trading land for peace as outlined in U.N. resolutions 242 and 338.

But Israel has said the conference will fail if Arab participants press for territorial compromise.

Palestinian leaders have never said publicly they would attend the conference, which Washington hopes to convene this month. Mr. Baker warned them on his last visit to the region that they had the



Saddam Hussein

Iraq is unable to import enough food because its assets are frozen overseas and imports are snared in U.N. Sanctions Committee red tape.

"The person who sacrificed his blood to maintain his dignity and to keep the doors of the future open is ready to continue on the same path with the same will and faith," President Saddam declared.

He warned that if the Arab World did not take care, a day would come when Israel controlled the history books in Arab schools and universities.

The Arab World from west to east would have voted against any war with Iraq, he said.

"Today (the battle) is in its ugliest phase. What is happening to Iraq has never happened in the history of humanity," said President Saddam, clad in green combat fatigues and interrupted by rapturous applause.

"Never have there been such unjust sanctions aimed at children, women and the elderly."

He made no explicit reference to a U.N. resolution which would allow Baghdad to sell \$1.6 billion of oil to pay war reparations and import essentials under strict U.N. supervision.

He appeared to rule it out. "It should be clear to you that Iraq could live under sanctions for 10 to 20 years without asking anything from anyone," he said.

"Iraqis are not ready to lose their dignity and honour for an extra piece of food."

"Both Iraqi men and women realise that once they deviate from this path, everything could be taken from them," he added.

Doctors say infant mortality in Iraq has risen threefold since the Gulf war because of shortages of antibiotics and basic medical equipment and a wrecked water supply system.

The Iraqi media remind the 18 million people that they are under trade sanctions which have cut their economic artery — oil exports.

most to gain from participating and the most to lose from staying away.

The secretary of state embarked on his eighth Middle East peace mission on Sunday, hoping to finalise details for the conference, due to open by the end of the month.

Asked if Palestinians would take part, Mr. Husseini said: "There is no problem from the Palestinian side. Obstacles that Israel put in the front can create these problems."

Mr. Husseini confirmed that Mr. Baker had asked Palestinian representatives to go to Jordan this week to discuss the composition of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation.

Arafat seeks Algerian support

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat Sunday sought the support of Algerian President Chadli Benjedid for Palestinian efforts to coordinate an Arab stand over the Middle East peace conference.

Mr. Arafat told journalists after meeting President Benjedid and Foreign Minister Lakhdar Ibrahim: "We reject the Israeli conditions and we remain constant to the proclamations made by the Palestine National Council (PNC) during its last session in Algiers."

The PNC welcomed U.S. efforts to convene a Middle East peace conference but did not commit Palestinians to attend.

Mr. Arafat said he had asked Algeria to support the Palestinians in the efforts for Arab coordination to define a joint position with the aim of standing up to Israel and the challenges imposed by the latest developments."

He said he had briefed the Algerian president on talks between Palestinians and the Soviet Union — co-sponsor of the proposed conference — and meetings between Palestinian leaders and Egypt and Jordan to find a joint position "above all, for the envisaged conference."

Israel and Aeroflot agree direct flights

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's Jewish Agency and the Soviet airline Aeroflot signed an agreement Sunday to start direct flights for Soviet Jewish immigrants within a month.

Jewish Agency spokesman Gad Ben Ari said Aeroflot subsidiary Transair would fly the immigrants directly to Israel from Moscow and St. Petersburg. Aeroflot agreed to negotiate reciprocal flights with Israel's El Al airline.

Jews leaving the Soviet Union until this month had to stop at transit stations in Eastern Europe on their way to Israel.

A private charter airline run by Israeli businessmen brought the first immigrants on direct flights earlier this month.

Mr. Ben Ari said the flights would make immigration simpler. The Jewish Agency is responsible for bringing immigrants to Israel. More than 300,000 Soviet Jews have moved to Israel in the past two years since the Kremlin liberalised emigration procedures. Israel expected a million Soviet immigrants by 1995.

El Al and Aeroflot signed an agreement for direct flights in 1989 but it was never implemented, apparently due to political considerations in Moscow.

Mr. Ben Ari said Sunday's agreement would remove the final obstacles to direct flights.

Estonia hopes to establish ties

Estonian Foreign Minister Leo Meri, in a letter to his Israeli counterpart David Levy, said Sunday that Estonia hopes to establish diplomatic ties with Israel soon.

Israel's foreign ministry quoted Mr. Meri's letter as saying that "the Estonian people and its government are expressing their deepest sorrow about the thousands of Jews who were killed on Estonian land" during World War II.

"The Estonian people have always condemned such crimes but at that time they did not have any possibility or power to prevent these events," the letter said.

About 1,000 Estonian Jews, all who did not succeed in escaping into Russia, were killed by the Nazis by the end of 1941. In the following years, German and Baltic Jews have been murdered or subjected to forced labour at Nazi camps in Estonia.

Mr. Meri, on behalf of his government, also pledged to preserve Jewish cultural identity in Estonia, the ministry said in a statement.

"The Estonian government hopes that traditional friendly relations between Estonia and the Jewish community will serve as the basis for friendship between Estonia and Israel," it quoted the letter as saying.

Israel, following the lead of its U.S. ally, recognised Estonia's independence on Sept. 4, along with that of Latvia and Lithuania. Mr. Levy had expressed hope for future diplomatic ties with the three Baltic states.

Retired Turkish general shot dead

ISTANBUL (R) — Three militants of a Turkish leftwing group have shot dead a retired Turkish general in his Istanbul home, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said.

General Adnan Ersöz, 74, was killed Sunday by a single shot to his head after his wife, who opened the door to the assailants, passed out when she was sprayed in the face by a special gas, Istanbul police chief Mehmet Agar told the agency.

An anonymous caller claiming to represent the group called Istanbul newspapers and said the armed revolutionary units faction of the Dev-Sol (Revolutionary Left) group had killed Gen. Ersöz, the agency reported.

General Ersöz's murder took place a week before parliamentary elections due on Oct. 20. Dev-Sol is Turkey's most ruthless extremist group which has claimed responsibility for killing three other Turkish generals this year.

"Ersöz was killed in return for the martyrs of July 12 and for the general elections ploy," the caller said.

Former General Ismail Selen was killed in his car dealer's office in Ankara on May 23.

Algerian parliament passes poll law

ALGIERS (R) — The Algerian parliament, rejecting key cabinet ideas on the framework for general elections, passed new electoral laws Sunday which the government immediately said it would challenge.

Prime Minister Sidahmed Ghazali said his government would ask President Chadli Benjedid to send the law back to parliament for a second reading.

Mr. Ghazali had asked parliament to reject the bill on the grounds that it would not allow the new assembly to sit in time to resolve a problem of constituency boundaries which opposition parties argued were unfair and which helped spark Islamic unrest last June.

Algeria's first multi-party general elections were postponed because of the unrest, in which 55

people were killed. Mr. Ghazali promised "clean and fair" elections would be held this year.

But parliament, dominated by members of the former ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), rejected many of his proposals, submitted last month after consultations with more than 40 political parties.

Mr. Ghazali said: "The deputies have done their work. The government is going to take up its responsibility. It is up to the head of state to demand a second reading."

Under the constitution, the president can ask for a second reading within 30 days of parliament passing a law. Parliament must then adopt the law by at least a two-thirds majority. On Sunday, some aspects of the law,

Tehran denies it will recall guards from Lebanon

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's Vice-President Hassan Habibi on Monday denied reports that Tehran was planning to withdraw hundreds of its Revolutionary Guards from Lebanon.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Mr. Habibi as saying in his weekly press conference that reports in Lebanese papers about Iran agreeing to withdraw the Revolutionary Guards were "without foundation."

He said the reports were meant to divert public opinion about the question of Palestine at a time when Tehran is preparing to convene an international conference later this month to back the Palestinian struggle against Israel.

Some 3,000 Revolutionary Guards were dispatched to Lebanon in 1982 to help fight the Israeli army, which invaded in June.

Food shortages in central Afghanistan

KABUL (R) — Six Egyptian soldiers have been killed clearing mines in Kuwait, the Egyptian News Agency MENA reported Monday. It gave no details of how the six died Saturday but said:

"The incident occurred in the Al Salma area on the Kuwaiti-Saudi border." Egyptian forces joined the U.S.-led coalition that fought Iraq's army in the emirate last February. Together with other allied troops, Egyptian soldiers have been helping to destroy hundreds of thousands of mines and unexploded shells left over from the six-week war.

Two killed in Aswan fight

CAIRO (AP) — A group of suspected Muslim extremists killed a Christian jeweller in the southern city of Aswan and lost one of their own men in a fight using chains and swords, police sources said Sunday. The incident is the second of its kind in less than a month, following shortly after violence in a Cairo suburb left 18 people wounded, two churches burnt and several shops ransacked.

Police sources said a group of about 15 masked people Saturday evening attacked a number of jewellery shops of Christian Copts with chains and swords, killing Ashraf Ismail Abdul Shahid in his shop. They were taking revenge for a Muslim woman whom Mr. Abdul Shahid had accused of stealing a gold ring from his shop. In the ensuing fight, Mr. Abdul Shahid and one of the assailants were killed. The rest fled and police are searching for them. The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the assailants were members of the Muslim Brotherhood who decided to attack Mr. Abdul Shahid and Coptic-owned stores after a woman complained to them of his accusation. Violence between Christians and Muslims erupted late last month in Cairo's densely-populated slums of Imbaba over charges of theft and abuse by both sides. Muslim extremists attacked two churches with explosives, and started fires in four Christian-owned shops.

Pakistani premier heads for pilgrimage

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif left Monday for a pilgrimage to the Holy City of Mecca en route to the Commonwealth summit in the Zimbabwe capital Harare. Mr. Sharif will hold talks with Saudi leaders during his overnight stay in the kingdom, officials said. Pakistani army chief General Asif Nawaz left with him for the pilgrimage. Officials said Mr. Sharif would hold talks with several leaders during the Commonwealth summit starting Wednesday, including Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao.

Quake shakes southern Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — A moderate earthquake shook the city of Larestan in Iran's southern Fars, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported Monday. The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said the quake struck at 15:00 p.m. (17:38 GMT) Sunday, and registered 4 on the open-ended Richter scale. There were no reports about possible damage or casualties. IRNA said. Another quake, measuring 3.8 on the Richter scale, shook the city of Khorram, near Larestan, early Sunday, IRNA reported.

Turkey pulls out of NATO exercise

ANKARA (R) — Turkey has pulled out of a NATO exercise after the Atlantic alliance turned down its request for ships to carry out wargames in the Aegean Sea, a senior Turkish military source said Monday. The Aegean has been at the heart of a long-running territorial dispute between Turkey and Greece, also a member of NATO. "Turkey pulled its Fethi frigate and fuel supply ship out of the deterrent force exercise on Sunday," said the source, who asked not to be identified. The source said Turkey had wanted the ships to spend three days exercising in the Aegean between the Turkish port of Izmir and the Greek island of Crete but NATO agreed to a Greek request that ships should pass through the sea and resume their exercises to the west of Crete.

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:30 ... Cairo (R) ... 75/500
12:45 ... Frankfurt (R) ... 140/100
13:20 ... Tripoli (R) ... 62/500

Market Prices

Upper/lower price is for per kg.
Apples ... 75/500
Bananas ... 500/450
Bacon (Medium) ... 500/500
Bacon (Small) ... 500/500
Bacon (Sausage) ... 175/150
Cabbage ... 250/200
Cauliflower ... 100/100
Cucumbers (large) ... 100/100
Cucumbers (small) ... 300/300
Eggs ... 200/180
Ghee ... 500/400
Grapes ... 500/400
Lemons ... 500/400
Rice ... 500/400
Tomatoes ... 500/400

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:30 ... Brussels, London (R) ... 140/100
12:45 ... Berlin (R) ... 140/100
13:20 ... Beijing (R) ... 140/100
14:30 ... Copenhagen (R) ... 140/100
15:45 ... Tokyo (R) ... 140/100
16:00 ... Amsterdam, New York (R) ... 140/100
16:30 ... Rome, Madrid (R) ... 140/100
17:00 ... Geneva, Paris (R) ... 140/100
17:30 ... Cairo (R) ... 140/100
18:30 ... Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (R) ... 140/100
19:30 ... Ankara (R) ... 140/100
20:00 ... Jeddah (R) ... 140/100
21:45 ... Abu Dhabi (R) ... 140/100
22:00 ... Moscow, Dubai (R) ... 140/100
22:30 ... Doha, Bahrain (R) ... 140/100
23:00 ... London (R) ... 140/100
16:00 ... New York, Montreal (R) ... 140/100

Market Prices

Upper/lower price is for per kg.
Apples (R) ... 75/500
Bananas ... 500/450
Bacon (Medium) ... 500/500
Bacon (Small) ... 500/500
Bacon (Sausage) ... 175/150
Cabbage ... 250/200
Cauliflower ... 100/100
Cucumbers (large) ... 100/100
Cucumbers (small) ... 300/30

Jordan, Egypt announce project to interconnect national electricity grids

AMMAN (J.T.) — Electricity authorities in Jordan and Egypt Monday jointly announced that they are embarking on an electrical interconnection project between Jordan and Egypt and have invited tenders for the overhead transmission lines involved in the project.

The Egyptian Electricity Authority (EEA) and the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announced that Jordan and Egypt have jointly obtained a loan from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) to finance the project, which entails linking the national grids of the two countries, the announcement said.

The announcement was for the installation of overhead transmission lines between Egyptian coastal towns and the Jordanian port city of Aqaba.

It followed a statement in Cairo two days ago that the Egyptian minister of energy and electricity who said that Egypt was embarking on an electrical interconnection project between Egypt and countries in Asia, Africa and Europe. The minister expected that the linking of the national grids will take up to five years to complete.

Under the project, Egypt's national grid will be connected with those of Jordan, Syria, Turkey and later with Europe.

at an estimated cost of \$150 million. The grid will also be connected to those in Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco and later Italy via Tunisia and Spain at the cost of \$170 million.

JEA Director General Mohammad Saeed Arafah told the Jordan Times that work on the linkage with Jordan was expected to start by the middle of 1992. He said the deadline for tenders to be submitted by various bidders is Jan. 26.

JEA sources said that progress of linkage with Jordan entails laying a 12-kilometre, 400-kilovolt line from Aqaba to be linked to a 12-kilometre-

long submarine cable to reach the Suez coast where it will be linked to a 290-kilometre, 500-kilovolt line into the Egyptian territory.

Jordan and Egypt agreed on the linkage in 1986 and later in 1989 the two countries, plus Syria, Turkey and Iraq, reached agreement on power grid interconnection in the region and to promote cooperation among themselves in energy related fields.

The five countries chose Amman to serve as the headquarters of a technical committee comprising delegates from the five states to plan projects in the course of carrying out the programme.

Arabiyat, acknowledging differences exist, commends King's address

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiyat Monday described His Majesty King Hussein's nationwide address last Saturday in which he announced Jordan's participation in the proposed peace process as comprehensive and reflects the Monarch's full awareness of the fast moving developments and the internal and external challenges.

The King's address was characterized with clarity based on a sense of responsibility and objectivity, offering deep analysis of the internal and external situations, Dr. Arabiyat said in an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The King has referred to all the dimensions that led to the present situation and said the efforts for peace were as important as war. For this reason it requires ample preparations and careful calculations of all the factors which would bolster the Arab stand vis-a-vis the challenges, Dr. Arabiyat added.

The enemy we are facing has a

special character noted by treachery which cannot be overlooked and there must be full awareness of this evil nature, Dr. Arabiyat said. He warned that the Israeli enemy was advocating ideas which totally contradict the Arab parties' concepts.

The peace process requires deep thinking and every effort to back the wise leadership of this country, Dr. Arabiyat said. He said he was confident that the Jordanian people will remain united regardless of the various different individual views and is sure that the Kingdom will stand fast in the face of all the challenges facing the Arab Nation.

Chairman of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Information Department Yasser Arafat said the King's address agreed completely with the Palestine National Council (PNC) resolutions adopted recently in Algeria.

In an interview with Jordan Television, Mr. Arafat said the contents of the address were based on the history of suffering through which Jordan, along with

By Ahmad Kreishan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In a dramatic development in the ongoing trial of a militant group, Prophet Mohammad's Army, lawyers defending 13 of the defendants announced they were abandoning their task and walked out of the room to back demands for a medical examination of their clients.

The 15 lawyers, led by Zuheir Abul Ragheb, alleged that the defendants were tortured while undergoing interrogation in prison and demanded that a doctor be appointed to examine them.

Altogether, 18 are standing trial for alleged bombings, fires and plotting to assassinate government officials and foreign diplomats.

All the defendants at last Thursday's session pleaded not guilty of the charges levelled against them, reversing their earlier statements taken under interrogation.

The lawyers were quoted as saying that they insist that a doctor conduct a medical ex-

amination on the accused, who claim they had been tortured. They also said that they could not carry on with their mission if the court does not respond favourably to their demand.

The heavy penalties awaiting the accused, if proven guilty, range between execution to life imprisonment with hard labour.

Before adjourning the session until next Thursday, Judge Yousef Faouzi served notice that the defendants should arrange for lawyers to defend them before Thursday and failing to do that, he said, State Security Court, which is now trying them, would appoint lawyers for them.

Asma Khadr, one of the defense lawyers, said she saw "fingernails pulled out of the defendants' hands as well as signs of beatings and torture all over the body."

Ms. Khadr, a human rights activist, told the Associated Press that defense lawyers had repeatedly asked the court to investigate the evident signs of torture, but the demand was not met.

"If the medical examination

proved that the group was buying, selling and smuggling weapons and training elements to launch criminal acts aimed at undermining Jordan's security and stability, including assassination of officials and diplomats.

They claimed that the group had links with Muslim guerrillas in Afghanistan and that some of its leaders were trained there.

They said that the group was linked to Abdulla Azzam, a militant Jordanian Muslim leader who was expelled from Jordan in 1985 and set up an Islamic guerrilla group with training bases in Afghanistan. An unidentified gunman killed Mr. Azzam in Afghanistan in 1987.

Yanak Ramzi, also a Jordanian, succeeded Mr. Azzam as leader and recruited Sameeh Abu Zeidan, a Palestinian physician from the Israeli-occupied West Bank city of Hebron, to lead the group in Jordan. Mr. Abu Zeidan is one of the 18 on trial. Mr. Ramzi is believed in Afghanistan — the Associated Press contributed to this report.

Jordan proposes guidelines to reading Islamic calendar

AMMAN (Petra) — Meteorology Department Secretary General Ali Abanda and Dr. Abdul Meguid Nusseir from Jordan University of Science and Technology returned home Sunday after attending an international conference on the Islamic calendar held in Malaysia last week.

In an arrival statement, Dr. Abanda said that the conference agreed on certain conditions which should be met to determine Islamic holidays and occasions in an accurate, scientific manner based on precise astronomical calculations.

He added that Jordan had

presented a working paper on unifying the Islamic calendar and determining Islamic holidays and occasions in accordance with established facts.

Minister calls for individual efforts to protect environment

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul Razzak Tabeishat Monday issued an appeal to Jordanian citizens to involve themselves in various efforts being carried out to provide protection to the environment from pollution.

Protecting of the environment has become a national duty requiring the efforts of all individuals so that the country can enjoy a clean and healthy atmosphere, said the minister in a statement issued to mark Arab Environment Day.

There are no geographic boundaries to problems related to environmental pollution and therefore, the entire world community has to be involved in measures that will provide protection to the environment, said the minister in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The Minister said that observa-

tion of Arab Environment Day each year is in line with a recommendation taken by the Arab ministers responsible for the environment in 1986 and in a bid to draw public attention to the need for safeguarding the environment in Jordan.

In a clear show of interest in

international efforts to protect the environment, Jordan signed the 1989 Hague Declaration on the Protection of the Earth and His Majesty King Hussein took part in the second "Global Warning Conference" in Geneva, last year where he appealed to the countries of the world to promote close cooperation in environment-related affairs, the minister said.

He added that King Hussein's

letter to the new government of Prime Minister Taher Masri included a call for particular attention to be given towards the protection of the environment.

Jordan has long observed the



HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN THE ARAB POTASH COMPANY LIMITED POTASH PRODUCTION EXPANSION PROJECT NO. 30-4857 (APC-25/90) PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS

The Arab Potash Company Limited (APC) of Amman, Jordan plans to expand production capacity by 400,000 tonnes per year. The facilities will be located on a site adjoining the existing refinery near Safi, on the southern end of the Dead Sea, about 200km north of the port of Aqaba.

The Potash Production Expansion Project is currently in the design phase. Construction is expected to commence in August 1992, and is targeted for completion in January 1994. The contract value is expected to be around US\$30 million.

Construction of the project will be performed through a general contract which will include the following classes of work:

Temporary construction facilities, temporary housing and messing facilities, site preparation, in-plant road construction, foundations and structures, structural steel supply and erection. Installation of mechanical equipment such as thickeners, crystallisers, centrifuges, pumps, agitators, rotary dryer and cooler, conveyors, elevator, flotation cells. Installation of electrical switchgear, transformers, supply and installation of cables. Installation of instrumentation and control systems. Supply and installation of piping system, tanks painting and protective coatings.

The contract will be based on FIDIC conditions of contract, and Jordanian laws and regulations will apply.

The Arab Potash Company invites companies capable of performing the full spectrum of Civil/Structural, Mechanical, Electrical & Instrumentation Works to apply for the pre-qualification booklet. The pre-qualification booklet may be obtained from either of the following:

**Mr. Dermot Gannon,
Project Manager,
Jacobs International Inc.,
Merrion House,
Merrion Road,
Dublin 4, Ireland.**

**Fax No.: 353-1-2695497
Telex No.: 30295 JCBS-EI
Tel. No.: 353-1-2695666**

The Arab Potash Company reserves the right to investigate all prospective companies and reject any application without assignment of any reason for the rejection.

The closing date for receipt of completed pre-qualification documents by APC and Jacobs is December 10th, 1991.

**A.Y. Ensour,
Managing Director,
The Arab Potash Company Ltd.,**

Fax No.: 962-3-377125/Site.

Fax No.: 962-6-674416/Amman H.O.

Telex No.: 21683 Potash Jo.

Tel. No.: 666165/6 - Amman

665116 or 03-377121 - Site

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King satisfied and confident

(Continued from page 1)

efforts. "I am very happy indeed to have had the opportunity to discuss with all the developments so far that are very promising and very positive. "I believe that this is a very very important visit, and comes at a time all of us in this region are preparing for steps to move towards a new threshold, hopefully, of the removal and destruction of barriers that have existed for so long, of fear, suspicion and doubts."

"I would like to say we are satisfied, hopeful and confident," he added.

Asked whether Jordan was satisfied with the assurances that the U.S. was offering the Kingdom, the King said, "I believe so." Jordan had received the final draft of American assurances "this evening...we are looking at it...and there is no problem there," he said.

The King, who has offered the umbrella of a joint Jordan-Palestinian delegation to the peace conference, said: "Jordan was continuing contacts with the Palestinians living in the occupied territories as well as those in the diaspora towards finalizing the issue of Palestinian participation in the peace conference. "Dialogue is continuing and we hope to have results soon," he said.

As the King and Mr. Baker spoke in Amman, officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said the Palestine Central Council (PCC) had been called to session in Tunis Wednesday to take the final decision on Palestinian participation in the peace conference. Informed sources said that it was almost a foregone conclusion that the council will authorize Palestinian participation in a joint delegation with Jordan after the PLO Executive Committee met over the weekend and decided that it had no other option (an separate story). "Jordan will 'definitely' discuss 'regional issues' — such as water, the environment and related matters

— with Israel in bilateral talks, the King affirmed when asked what the Kingdom's position was in light of reports that Syria was refusing to discuss such topics with the Jewish state, prior to any agreement on the political aspects of the conflict.

Despite the last-minute snags over Palestinian representation and PLO reports that it had not received any assurances from the U.S., Mr. Baker expressed confidence that he would be able to achieve his objective of convening the peace conference before the end of month.

In remarks in Cairo, Mr. Baker confirmed that he had started reviewing draft invitations to the conference by the end of this month, "I'm hopeful we will be able to see a confidence by the end of this month," Mr. Baker said. "To the United States, we are committed to this goal."

Mr. Bush told reporters Sunday that he was hopeful that Mr. Baker's "best bet" to the Middle East "would be to continue in pursuing the effort to get a conference started this month." "I don't know how to rate the odds, but I do know that most people I've talked to want to go to the table and that's quite different than it used to be," Mr. Bush said in Ijamsville, Maryland.

"So I'm somewhat hopeful that Secretary Baker can move this forward now," he added.

Meanwhile, Syria refused to sign that it was committed to Mr. Baker's best bet to the Middle East "upside down" in pursuing the effort to get a conference started this month.

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According to a presidential spokesman, Syria's President Hafez Al-Assad told Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez that Syria remained committed to the peace conference "despite difficulties raised by Israel."

President Assad affirmed that Syria supported the current efforts to achieve peace and that it will continue

to support these efforts until a just peace is achieved despite the obstacles and difficulties raised by Israel," the spokesman said.

Mr. Baker himself has played down the reported Syrian position by saying that he did not expect Damascus to attach much significance to bilateral talks with Israel once the peace conference got going.

Addressing reporters in Cairo along with Mr. Baker earlier Monday, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said there was nothing to worry about regarding Syria's position in the peace process.

President Assad, who met with Mr. Mubarak in Cairo on Saturday, "is eager and keen to attend the peace conference," the Egyptian leader said.

Mr. Baker said in Amman he was also continuing contacts with Palestinians from the occupied territories on the issue of Palestinian representation and assurances sought by the Palestinians. But, he said, he was not trying to convert Israel into a participant with the PLO.

Mr. Baker declined to disclose any details of his contacts with the Palestinians whose representatives met with him in Washington one day before his departure on the latest Middle East shuttle.

It was not immediately confirmed whether a group of Palestinians from the occupied territories — some of whom arrived in Amman Monday and others expected Tuesday — will meet with Mr. Baker here or whether they will return to occupied Jerusalem to meet with the secretary there Wednesday.

Mr. Baker leaves for Damascus Tuesday and is expected to fly to Israel after talks with President Assad and others. According to some reports, Mr. Baker may return to Jordan for a brief stop and meeting with the Palestinians.

Mr. Baker will meet with his Soviet counterpart Boris Pankin in occupied Jerusalem and it is believed that some of the final details of the peace conference — such as venue and date — would be announced after the meeting, which is also expected to be followed by a Soviet announcement of the resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel.

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PCC to endorse joint delegation

(Continued from page 1)

independent Palestinian representation. The officials said that even though the American assurances are still far from sufficient of a mechanism could be worked out with Jordan to ensure an independent Palestinian representation.

"We might be able to work out a mechanism that will ensure independent representation that can be acceptable to the U.S.," one PLO official said.

In a speech to the National Congress on Saturday, His Majesty King Hussein said that the Palestinian side of the joint team will negotiate the Palestinian dimension of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

King Hussein said that the joint delegation will be headed by a Jordanian. A PLO delegation, which currently visiting Jordan, is requesting a rotting presidency for the joint delegation.

PLO sources, however, said that at the inaugural meeting of the peace conference the joint delegation will be held by Jordan but there will be

speeches by both the leaders of the Jordanian side and the head of the Palestinian side.

It was still unclear how the major PLO demand that the Palestinian delegation represent Palestinians from inside and outside the occupied territories, including East Jerusalem, will be solved.

The extremely sensitive issue of the representation of Jerusalem might be solved by choosing a personality from one of the villages which are considered part of the Jerusalem area, like Abu Dis or Azzari.

News reports from the West Bank Monday suggested trade unionist Ali Abu Hilla, from Abu Dis, to be selected as a compromise for the representation of Jerusalem.

But the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) of George Habash, which categorically reject participation at the peace conference and the DFLP of Nayef Hawatreh are expected to oppose a PCC authorization of sending a Palestinian team to the conference.

DFLP sources in Amman said that they did not think that the American assurances were sufficient for authorizing Palestinian participation.

legation yet even though many names are being circulated.

Among the names that were circulated were Radwan Abu Ayash, Sari Nusseibeh, Ziyad Abu Ziyad, Saeed Arzakat, Jamil Turifi, and Elias Freij. Hassan Ashrafi and Faisal Hinesini, who have negotiating with Mr. James Baker for months are strong candidates but it was not clear if they will be "acceptable" to Israel as they are considered to be PLO backers and Mr. Hussein as East Jerusalem.

But PLO officials said that the organisation's understanding was that the names will not be submitted for Israeli approval.

The officials said that there have been no official lists submitted by the PLO to any government. "No list has been drawn up yet, but any list will definitely include some of the names that are being circulated," A PLO official said.

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The Iraqi government has not made clear its position on the fate of the Iraqi opposition members living in Kuwait.

"The Iraqis accused me of collaborating with the Kuwaitis, then after liberation I was accused of working with the Iraqis," the woman said.

She and other Iraqis caught in the cycle of hate are afraid to give their names.

More than 40,000 Iraqis were living in Kuwait when Iraqi tanks rolled in on August 2, 1990. Diplomats estimate that only 6,000 remain, including 1,000 members of the Iraqi opposition who fled Saddam's rule and those married to Kuwaitis.

Many fear they will be forced to leave by a new Kuwaiti residency law to control the presence of foreigners. They say they have nowhere else to go.

"We fear being forced out of Kuwait and handed over to the Iraqi authorities. No country is giving us visas, so we will end up falling into the hands of our executioner (Saddam)," said a 36-year-old member of the Iraqi opposition.

"We are not guilty. We would have run away otherwise. The

Hard times in Kuwait for Iraqis caught in cycle of hate

By Diana Abdallah

Reuter

KUWAIT — Iraqi soldiers imprisoned her. After they fled, angry Kuwaitis sent her to jail again.

Her crime was being an Iraqi. The 37-year-old woman was born in Kuwait and lived all her life here.

Iraqi troops who conquered Kuwait in August last year accused her of treason. When the U.S.-led allies drove, President Saddam Hussein's troops from the emirate seven months later the Kuwaitis accused her of spying for Baghdad.

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"We are not guilty. We would have run away otherwise. The

Kuwaitis should realise that lots of Iraqis have escaped Saddam's tyranny and they have nowhere else to go," she added.

The sister's husband, an Iraqi, was arrested in the first days after liberation at the end of February. She still does not know his fate.

The Iraqis interviewed by Reuters said they had to leave their homes and squat in small shabby apartments to escape harassment by people who knew their nationality.

In a small and dark basement flat, a 49-year-old man said he was taking his family back to Iraq where he had no home and no job. "What can I do, tell me?"

His 17-year-old daughter was arrested by the Kuwaitis and held in jail for 30 days on charges of collaborating with the Iraqis during the occupation.

Black circles under his eyes and a stubble of a beard testified to his anxiety about his family's fate. He has lost the job he had for 12 years at the Health Ministry and his daughter now supports the family.

"I feel no hatred, I don't have any feelings. I just want to give up," she added, as her six-year-old son cuddled her.

"We were victims of both sides. The Iraqis said we were traitors, then the Kuwaitis said we were traitors. But the Kuwaiti government should know that the Iraqi people here are oppressed and it should not increase their oppression," said her son, sitting on the torn carpet in their living room.

"We are not guilty. We would have run away otherwise. The

Yanomamis, Westerners — a wide culture gap

By Kevin Noble
The Associated Press

ASHIDOWA-TERI, VENEZUELA — A brave handful of Yanomamis stood, hooted and waved excitedly as the Venezuelan Air Force chopper roared into their village.

The children were clearly upset by the visitors' unusual appearance, and perhaps by the noisy chopper.

In one hammock, a teenaged mother hugged a boy of about 2 and cried out repeatedly. "She's saying the boy's scared," said U.S. anthropologist Napoleon Chagnon.

The helicopter delivered a team of anthropologists, physicians, botanists and others engaged in research or medical care programmes. They planned to remain in the jungle for a week or longer, hiking from Ashidowa-Teri to other nearby villages.

Ashidowa-Teri sits in a vast and hilly, emerald-green forest laced with twisting black rivers and streams. Insects buzzed noisily in the sweltering noon heat, but the roundhouse's partial roof — oot to mention the dense jungle canopy — offered shelter from a blazing sun.

Hanging under the roofed sections of the roundhouse were hammocks of tree bark of crudely rudimentary Spanish.

Each family — a man, a couple of wives and perhaps three children — occupied a separate space, kept its own fire and cooked its own food. Above the hammocks, dangling bones, skins and other trophies from hunting, along with bananas and other produce from the family's hillside garden plots outside the roundhouse.

THANKS

To the messenger of peace
Secretary of State James Baker:

There are no words that will describe our appreciations and thanks for what you do. May God bless you, bless

His Majesty King Hussein

and all those who will sit at the table for peace.

Mazen Elias Adasj

By Andrew Hill

Reuter

BAGHDAD — In pink party frocks and wolf cub outfits, Baghdad children raised their small voices on Sunday to the clamour of protest as the government is mounting over U.N. sanctions it says are killing the young.

The demonstration, organised by the Iraqi Red Crescent, was the latest in a campaign the authorities are waging to persuade opinion at home and abroad that their privations are due to American persecution.

"The mother of revolutions is our revolution," the children chanted before Iraqi and foreign media. "Saddam Hussein is our guide," they sang to mark Iraqi children's day, which commemorates the bombing of a children's school in the Iran-Iraq war in 1987.

But the focus was on sanctions. The U.N. Security Council clamped in August last year to punish Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait. Baghdad says the shortages it has caused are killing thousands of children every month.

Saddam Hussein's government shows no signs of accepting U.N. Resolution 706, which would allow Baghdad to sell \$1.6 billion

worth of oil to buy essential supplies whose purchase and distribution would be monitored by the U.N.

To accept such terms would be to surrender more sovereignty over Iraq during the Gulf war — Sudan, Yemen and Jordan — as well as citizens of states which identified with Saddam's stand against the United States, even if their governments publicly opposed it.

Popular pro-Saddam feeling in such countries — Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco — ran high, and the three-day meeting attracted trade unionists and intellectuals who will go back with thunderous pro-Saddam statements still ringing in their ears to disseminate at home.

The leverage the pro-Iraqi group holds in the United Nations is minimal but the conference even attracted delegates from countries such as Egypt which backed the U.S.-led coalition and provided troops for the Gulf war.

By appealing over the heads of such governments, the Baghdad authorities appear to hope that popular support will eventually sway Arab governments into getting the U.N. to loosen its grip on the economy.

The message from the conference appeared clear: The Arab World should back Saddam for

world that Bush is killing our children," pleaded an Iraqi delegate.

And the children are the innocent victims, the government says. "They went to their God complaining of the cruelty of the people who killed them," the head of Baghdad's best hospital told the children's rally on Sunday.

Dr. Qassim Mohammad Ismail, director of paediatrics at Saddam Centre Hospital, said the infant death rate at his hospital had trebled from 32 per 1,000 before the war to 98 now.

"I call upon you please to ask for the lifting of the embargo for our children," he told Reuters on Sunday.

So did the children. Survivors of the Amriya shelter attack in which 300 people were killed in Gulf war bombing attended the event, which was part political, part Sunday outing.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Italian coach on the way out

ROME (R) — Italy's failure to qualify for next year's European Soccer Championship finals looks set to signal the end of Azeglio Vicini's reign as coach of the national team. A scoreless draw with the Soviet Union Saturday effectively ended Italian hopes of reaching the final stages of the competition. The Soviets need only avoid defeat against minnows Cyprus to win group three and ensure Vicini's long-expected dismissal will probably be settled when the Italian League management meets Friday. Italian soccer supremo Antonio Matarrese confirmed Vicini would be replaced but would not comment on reports that former AC Milan trainer Arrigo Sacchi would get the job. "I think it's time to change many things," the league president told the *Gazzetta Sportiva* newspaper. "Above all we need a new, more modern mentality, more in step with today's soccer. We need men who are motivated, who haven't won much and who want to win a lot more," he said.

Capiot wins Paris-to-Tours event

TOURS, France (AP) — Johan Capiot of Belgium won the final sprint to capture the 71st Paris-to-Tours Cycling Classic Sunday. Capiot edged German Olaf Ludwig and Dutchman Nico Verhoeven as the pack overtook the last of the breakaway riders a few hundred metres before the finish line in the 286-kilometre event. The race was run through rainy weather over much of the central France countryside. Various riders tried to make a break throughout the race, but it ended up being a sprinter's competition over the mostly flat route. Christoph Laviniere of France broke away early and led by more than 27 minutes before he was overtaken about 33 kilometres from the end. The race was the 11th in the World Cup competition but did little to change the overall standings with Italian Maurizio Fondriest still in the overall lead. The next World Cup race is the Tour of Lombardy in Italy, on Oct. 19.

Algeria wins Afro-Asian Soccer Cup

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria beat Iran 1-0 to win the Afro-Asian Soccer Cup. Ali Benhalima scored the winning goal in the 79th minute. Iran won the first match in Tehran by two goals to one, but the one home goal, with points from the one away goal was enough for Algeria to clinch the cup.

Auriol leads in San Remo Rally

SAN REMO, Italy (R) — Didier Auriol of France claimed the early lead in the San Remo Rally, gaining a one-second edge over Lancia team mate Jutta Kankkunen of Finland in the first day's special stages. Auriol covered the 16 kilometres in one hour and two seconds. World champion Carlos Sainz of Spain, fighting to stay ahead of Kankkunen at the top of the World Drivers' Standings, was a further second adrift in his Toyota. Sainz leads Kankkunen, who finished second in San Remo last year, by just two points with three rounds remaining but has overturned his car in the last two events. The 2,186-kilometre rally, with 31 special stages covering a total 591 kilometres ends Thursday.

Mabbutt earns England recall

LONDON (R) — Tottenham Captain Gary Mabbutt was drafted into the England team Monday, just two days before their European Soccer Championship qualifier against Turkey and four years after his last international. Mabbutt's late inclusion for the Wembley match was forced on manager Graham Taylor when Arsenal defender Tony Adams became the latest casualty in a lengthy injury list. Taylor, who has lost seven centre-halves, said: "Mabbutt has captained the England B side, he's a regular centre back for a top league side. This is more logical and sensible than opting for a newcomer."

50 injured in Bangladesh soccer riot

DHAKA (AP) — At least 50 people were injured when rival soccer fans fought with crude bombs, bricks and iron rods in the country's second soccer-related riot in a month, police said Monday. The riot started Sunday in the port city of Khulna when a referee tried to expel a player 10 minutes before the end of the game with the score tied 1-1. When the players from the Abahani Club refused to leave, hundreds of fans from the Muslim Sporting Club stormed onto the field, police said. Abahani supporters joined the fray.

Barcelona games ticket sale begins

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Direct sales began Monday for the 3 million tickets remaining for the 1992 Summer Olympic Games. The Barcelona Olympic Organising Committee said tickets included 1.5 million for soccer, 500,000 for track and field, 200,000 for field hockey and smaller quantities for most of the remaining 22 official events and three demonstration sports. The committee said tickets were already sold out to the July 25 opening ceremony and the Aug. 9 closing ceremony, swimming, gymnastics, boxing, tennis semifinals and finals, and basketball quarterfinals.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
B. TANNAH HIRSCH
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you spades.
hold:
♦AQ64 ♦K1095 ♦83 ♦6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—Since partner made a two-over-one response, a raise to three hearts would be game-forcing. Here, however, we are in favor of a jump to four hearts. That not only announces excellent support, but also shows your values are concentrated in the bid suits only.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦AJ64 ♦873 ♦Q72 ♦962
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—In the modern style, North's reverse is a one-round force. A bid of three clubs now by you would be positive. The only way to show a weak hand with no ambition is to initiate a possible sign-off sequence with two no trump.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦AJ64 ♦73 ♦952 ♦Q72
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.—This hand is considerably better than the one in the previous question—it has a five-card major suit. Since partner's reverse could be based on a partial spade fit, your first duty is to advise him that you have a five-card suit. Rebid two

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦7 ♦Q63 ♦AK8 ♦KQJ764
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.—To rebid three clubs would be showing a long, good club suit with little strength outside. You can't jump to four because that bypasses three clubs, and you can't raise raise hearts with only three-card support. The solution is to rebid three diamonds, and wait for partner's reaction.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦AJ1096 ♦AK754 ♦85 ♦10
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.—It is your duty to paint as accurate a picture of your hand as possible. If you choose any rebid other than three hearts, dust off that old book on bidding that you packed away and start reading it.

Q.6—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦6 ♦AQ39652 ♦Q963 ♦6
What is your opening bid?
A.—At hearts, your hand is worth seven tricks—six in your long suit and one in your four-card side suit. According to the old Rule of 2 and 3, this hand qualifies for an opening precept of four hearts at the prevailing vulnerability.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Twins beat Blue Jays to reach World Series

TORONTO (R) — The Minnesota Twins, the first Major League baseball team this century to go from last place one year to first the next, scored an 8-5 comeback win against the Toronto Blue Jays on Sunday to book a trip to the World Series.

The Twins, lifted by the clutch hitting of Kirby Puckett, battled back from a 5-2 deficit to defeat Toronto and win the best-of-seven American League Championship Series by four games to one.

Puckett, who hit his second homer of the playoffs among his three hits on Sunday, was named the Most Valuable Player of the series.

Minnesota, who swept all three playoff games staged in Toronto's Skydome, will meet the winner of the National League Championship Series between the Atlanta Braves and Pittsburgh Pirates.

The Braves held a two games to one lead in that series going into Sunday night's game at Atlanta.

"Puckett was focused the entire series," Minnesota manager Tom Kelly said. "He was not swinging at bad pitches."

Puckett, who was 3-5 in the clincher, batted .429 with two homers and six RBIs in the series.

"There's something special about the Twins. We play hard every day," Puckett said. "There's a whole bunch of guys in the clubhouse who earned this MVP as much as me."

It was a rollercoaster game before a three-run outburst in the eighth gave Minnesota their third American League pennant since the Washington Senators moved in 1961 and changed their name to the Twins.

Lefthander David West, who replaced starter Kevin Tapani in the fifth, pitched three innings of one-hitter ball for the win. Carl Willis pitched the eighth and Rick Aguilera earned his third save of the series by retiring Toronto in the ninth.

Minnesota's bullpen was a key to victory. Twins relievers did not yield a single earned run in 18 innings of work.

Pirates beat Braves in 10 innings to even series

PITTSBURGH (R) — Mike Lavalliere's pinch-hit single in the 10th inning delivered the winning run on Sunday as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Atlanta Braves 3-2 to level the best-of-seven National League Championship Series at two games each.

The sharply hit drive off the middle, the first pinch hit of the year by the catcher, brought Andy Van Slyke across the plate and ensured that the series would return to Pittsburgh on Wednesday for the sixth game and a seventh game, if needed.

The series resumes in Atlanta on Monday afternoon with Braves' 20-game winner Tom Glavine taking the mound against Zane Smith, who will start instead of Doug Drabek, who has been pushed back to game six because of his sore hamstring.

"It was certainly a really big ball game," Pittsburgh manager Jim Leyland said. "Now it boils down to a three-game series."

The low-scoring contest was full of excitement as both teams took chances on the baselines and made daring defensive plays in the field on a cool evening full of playoff tension.

Van Slyke started the winning rally by walking on four pitches to lead off the 10th and then stole second against losing pitcher Kent Mercker.

After two were out, Mercker walked Steve Buechele and was replaced by Mark Whelchel to face catcher Don Slaight. Pirates manager Jim Leyland countered with the lefthanded hitting Lavalliere, who singled on an 0-2 count for the go-ahead run.

"We gutted it out. This is a tough place for us to play," Leyland said. The Pirates had lost all seven games they had

played this year at Atlanta-Fulton Stadium.

"I knew I was facing a hard thrower. With the count 0-2 I'm just guarding the plate, trying not to overswing."

After allowing two runs to the Braves in the first inning, Pirates pitching shut down Atlanta's high-powered offence the rest of the way, yielding only three hits in the last nine innings.

Stan Belinda, Pittsburgh's third pitcher, got the win by working two scoreless innings in relief of Bob Walk, who went two scoreless innings after replacing starter Randy Tomlin.

Atlanta opened the scoring in the first when Lonnie Smith broke an 0-for-10 slump with a double to the warning track in right centerfield. Smith went to third on Terry Pendleton's fly to right and scored on Ron Gant's grounder to short.

David Justice and Brian Hunter followed with singles and Greg Olson scored Justice with ground single to left putting the Braves ahead 2-0.

Pittsburgh made it 2-1 in the second. Bobby Bonilla, who reached base his first three times, led off with a walk, went to second on Buechele's single to centre, and scored on Slaight's single to left.

The Pirates tied the game in the fifth with a two-out rally. Gary Redus singled to left and Jay Bell blooped a single to right. Atlanta rightfielder Justice threw late and wildly to third attempting to nail Redus, who scored as the ball skipped by and bounded off the dugout railing.

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Financial Markets		Jordan Times			
in co-operation with		Cairo Amman Bank			
U.S. Dollar in International Markets					
Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close			
	Date 11/10/1991	Date 11/10/1991			
Sterling Pound	1.7235	1.7222			
Deutsche Mark	1.6885	1.6917			
Swiss Franc	1.7495	1.4785			
French Franc	5.7540	5.7645			
Japanese Yen	129.53	129.00			
European Currency Unit	1.2124	1.2107			
USD Per STG					
** Europe Opening (at 8:00 a.m. GMT)					
Eurocurrency Interest Rates			Date 14/10/1991		
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS	
U.S. Dollar	5.18	5.31	5.31	5.50	
Sterling Pound	10.43	10.25	10.06	10.12	
Deutsche Mark	9.12	9.31	9.31	9.31	
Swiss Franc	8.00	8.18	8.06	8.06	
French Franc	9.12	9.25	9.31	9.31	
Japanese Yen	6.81	6.53	6.25	5.96	
European Currency Unit	9.75	9.87	9.87	9.87	
Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.					
Precious Metals					
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	361.05	7.050	Silver	4.15	.092
* 21 Karat					
Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin					
Currency	Bid	Offer			
U.S. Dollar	.686	.688			
Sterling Pound	1.7791	1.7850			
Deutsche Mark	.4049	.4069			
Swiss Franc	.4631	.4654			
French Franc	.1188	.1194			
Japanese Yen*	.5375	.5342			
Dutch Guilder	.3593	.3611			
Swedish Krona	.1111	.1117			
Italian Lira*	.0547	.0544			
Belgian Franc	.01966	.01976			
* Per 100					
Other Currencies					
Currency	Bid	Offer			
Bahraini Dinar	1.7920	1.8000			
Lebanese Lira*	.0770	.0776			
Saudi Riyal	.1826	.1832			
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-			
Qatari Riyal	.1861	.1866			
Egyptian Pound	.2090	.2090			
Omanis Riyal	1.7580	1.7780			
UAE Dirham	.1861	.1866			
Greek Drachma*	.3600	.3675			
Cypriot Pound	1.4750	1.4700			
* Per 100					
CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market*					
Index	12/10/1991 Close	13/10/1991 Close			
All-Share	121.67	121.86			
Banking Sector	102.71	102.77			
Insurance Sector	124.84	124.81			
Industry Sector	150.41	150.70			
Services Sector	129.77	130.57			
December 31, 1990 = 100					

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.7200/10	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1287/92	Canadian dollar
	1.6918/25	Deutschmarks
	1.9040/50	Dutch guilders
	1.4780/90	Swiss francs
	34.82/86	Belgian francs
	5.7625/75	French francs
	1264/1265	Italian lire
	129.00/10	Japanese yen
	6.1625/75	Swedish crowns
	6.6200/50	Norwegian crowns
One ounce of gold	6.5200/50	Danish crowns
	360.10/360.50	U.S. dollars

CONCORD

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World Gone Wild

Nabil Al Mashini Theatre	Tel: 675571
1. SOMERSAULT TIME PLAY	
Shows: daily 8:30 p.m.	
2. Children play	
★THE TREASURE AND THE SEA★	
Shows: daily 10:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m.	

Poland introduces crawling peg system for zloty/dollar rate

WARSAW (R) — The National Bank of Poland (NBP) said Monday it had introduced a so-called crawling peg system for the zloty/dollar rate which would result in a devaluation of the currency of around 4.3 per cent by the end of this year.

The rate would grow by about nine zloties (less than 0.1 cent) a day, starting from the rate of 11,100 zloties against the dollar fixed in May in relation to a basket of currencies.

Under the system, which would also apply in 1992, the zloty would be devalued up to 1.8 per cent every month.

"The move was made first of all to boost exports," acting NBP president Andrzej Topinski told state television.

Exports, seen by the government as the engine driving Poland's reforms, fell in the first nine months of 1990 by 5.6 per cent compared to the same period last year and totalled \$8.9 billion at the end of September.

On May 17, the zloty was devalued by 14.4 per cent after the foreign trade balance plunged into the red by \$1.9 billion in April.

After the May devaluation, exports jumped to produce a \$2.4 billion trade surplus in June. But

the basket used to calculate the zloty rate includes the dollar (40 per cent), mark (35 per cent), pound sterling (10 per cent), French franc (five per cent) and Swiss franc (five per cent), a reflection of the currency structure of Polish foreign trade, NBP said.

Countries to adjust their economies if they were not given the possibility of restructuring their debt.

Mr. Camdessus said the IMF was giving a clear mandate to the official creditors among its members to follow the call of the Group of Seven (G-7) rich industrial nations made at their London meeting this summer.

Michel Camdessus told a news conference he hoped the fund's executive board would consider extending the enhanced structural adjustment facility (ESAF), which provides very low cost loans to the world's poorest nations, in the next few weeks.

He made the remarks after the IMF's policy-making Interim Committee issued a communiqué saying the list of countries eligible for ESAF support should be kept under consideration with a view to possible expansion.

The ESAF was established in 1987 with a pool of \$8 billion to provide loans to about 50 countries in extremely favourable terms — interest of one half per cent, repayable over 10 years.

Countries were eligible depending on certain per capita income levels and balance-of-payments needs.

Mr. Camdessus said countries such as Mongolia and Angola, which were not even IMF members in 1987, should be eligible, and other countries above the per capita-income threshold in 1987 had now fallen below.

Mr. Camdessus said since the ESAF was introduced, the rate of growth for eligible countries had averaged more than four per cent a year, against only 2.5 per cent in the previous three years.

A few countries would no longer need ESAF, he said.

"Of course they will remain fragile and we will continue to monitor them," he said, adding that the IMF's other resources would remain available to help.

Mr. Camdessus also noted that the Interim Committee had called on the Paris Club of official creditors to continue talking about how to provide additional debt relief to the poorest countries.

Interim Committee Chairman Carlos Slochaga, Spain's economy and finance minister, said it would be impossible to ask poor

IMF hopes to offer help to more poor nations in coming few weeks

BANGKOK (R) — The number of very poor countries eligible for special help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) may be expanded within weeks, the agency's managing director said Monday.

Michel Camdessus told a news conference he hoped the fund's executive board would consider extending the enhanced structural adjustment facility (ESAF), which provides very low cost loans to the world's poorest nations, in the next few weeks.

The G-7 at that time called for the poorest, most indebted countries to get improved terms on new loans, extended maturities or debt write-offs and lower interest rates on existing loans.

The Interim Committee's communiqué called on banks and debtor nations to "work expeditiously toward a normalisation of financial relations in those cases where restructuring of bank debt is a necessary complement to strong domestic adjustment efforts."

The committee stressed the importance of continued adequate and timely financial support for all developing countries that maintain sound policies.

The chief of the financial agency also said that the disputed right of the IMF to call on members to cut arms spending was "a question of death or life."

The managing director told the news conference he was pleased the Interim Committee had seen fit to point out the economic importance of limiting spending on weapons.

"An important contribution could be made by reassessing spending on defence and subsidies," the Interim Committee communiqué said Monday in a section devoted to ways of helping to revitalize the world economy.

That is fighting language to nations in the developing world, who Friday told the World Bank and the IMF meeting in Bangkok to stick to money and leave defence to them.

"This is a very basic debate involving for every country its possible survival in a fight with enemies, but also its possible survival in the fight against poverty, illiteracy and underdevelopment.

Soviet economic difficulties, He called for creation of new institutions and implementation of laws protecting entrepreneurs.

Czechoslovak Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus was more pessimistic about Soviet prospects.

"It is not enough just to use the word 'market' in every sentence instead of 'planning,'" he said.

"You have to stabilise the economy. You have to put fundamentals in order," he said, adding that the rouble could be made convertible against other currencies very quickly.

Soviet economist Oleg Bogomolov agreed with the assessment that discipline was required.

"If we are going to establish a real sound currency, we need to undertake very tough measures," he said.

ment," Mr. Camdessus said.

"So it's a question of death or life for countries," he said.

What was important was that all countries were looking at defence spending, he said.

"In a matter of defence, what your neighbours are doing is as important as what you are doing," he pointed out.

The process of cutting arms spending could be mutually reinforcing, and eventually lead to a race for disarmament, he said.

The finance ministers of the Group of 24 (G-24), which represents the interests of the developing world within the sister agencies, in a communiqué Friday told the IMF and the World Bank not to get involved "in issues beyond their strict economic and financial mandate."

The Group of 10 rich nations repudiated Sunday in a statement issued after a brief meeting of finance ministers. They called for cuts "in unproductive expenditures including excessive military expenditures, in all countries."

Dutch Finance Minister Wim Kok backed the IMF's stand on arms spending in a speech Sunday even though he said the IMF should retain its non-political character.

"Military expenditure is a legitimate concern of the fund, as it can have undesirable consequences," Mr. Kok said.

"The fund can, in fact, give its considered comments, indeed criticism, in cases of excessive military spending to the authorities concerned without rocking its non-political foundation, precisely because it is non-political," he said.

The Netherlands is a member of the Group of 10.

The argument was joined Monday by British Chancellor of the Exchequer Norman Lamont in a speech before the Development Committee.

"Much military expenditure is, almost by definition, unproductive in economic terms," he said.

"It does little or nothing to help developing countries build up the physical and human capital they need to achieve sustainable



Michel Camdessus

growth."

"It absorbs large quantities of often scarce foreign exchange and leads to external debts which many developing countries simply cannot afford," he pointed out.

He said he welcomed the IMF's efforts to obtain better information about levels of military spending in member countries.

Colombian Finance Minister Rudolf Hommes, who chaired

Vukovar relief convoy halted as Yugoslav truce hangs in balance

VINKOVCI, Yugoslavia (R) — A relief convoy taking emergency aid to the besieged Croatian town of Vukovar hit new delays Monday, putting a ceasefire in the rebel republic further in doubt.

The convoy had been due to leave a Yugoslav army barracks on the outskirts of Vukovar to take food and medical supplies to the centre of the town and ferry out the wounded after seven weeks of constant shelling that has almost flattened it.

But a spokesman for a European Community peace mission escorting the convoy said its passage was still blocked more than two hours after it scheduled departure because of confusion over terms for crossing frontlines.

The new setback increased fears the eighth truce in Yugoslavia's 16-week undeclared civil war will collapse because the convoy's success is part of a deal to lift a blockade of a federal army barracks in Croatia's capital Zagreb.

"There have been some conflicting commands from the army, some requests for a further search of the convoy which we had agreed last night was not necessary," said Simo Snits, a

spokesman for 200 EC ceasefire monitors based in Zagreb.

He indicated the problem was local and the agreement had not broken down entirely, even though fighting has continued around Vukovar in northeastern Croatia and in many other areas despite the latest truce agreement.

Reporters in Vinkovci, about 20 kilometres from Vukovar, were unable to approach the town to check the reports.

Vukovar and neighbouring towns are Croatian strongholds and flashpoints in an area inhabited by many Serbs who have rebelled against Croatia's independence moves in a conflict that has killed more than 1,000 people since June.

One EC source said the convoy had left the barracks in Vukovar but was stopped by local Serbian forces who wanted to check none of the vehicles was carrying weapons.

Another said the convoy might have to take another route to avoid anti-tank defences, including trenches and heavy barricades. Local army officers saw the relief as a move to resupply the enemy for further battles, the

source said.

The convoy of 50 trucks, ambulances and buses braved heavy fighting to reach the outskirts of Vukovar Sunday after two failed attempts. It was given shelter in an army barracks.

Its failure to move as planned cast a shadow over the latest EC peace talks on Yugoslavia in the Hague, attended by the foreign ministers of the six Yugoslav republics and federal Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar.

Cyrus Vance, the former U.S. Secretary of State who is acting as personal envoy of United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, was also attending the talks before returning to Yugoslavia for further meetings Tuesday.

Tanjung News Agency reported renewed fighting in the central Croatian towns of Novi and Stara Gradiška after battles Sunday around nearby Pakrac and in Vukovar and neighbouring towns in northeast Croatia.

General Jovan Kosters, deputy head of the EC monitoring mission in Croatia, said in Zagreb the federal army had continued attacks.

"The army is constantly bringing in more men, still trying to

take Vukovar and so on. I think you can speak about a clear aggressor and that's the federal army," he told Dutch Radio.

The Vukovar convoy has been linked in the latest peace plan with the relief of the army's Borongaj Barracks in Zagreb.

An initial group of federal troops and equipment from Borongaj has left Croatia and crossed into the neighbouring Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, but the rest must wait until the Vukovar convoy is on its way out of the war zone.

The southern resort of Dubrovnik, without electricity, gas, water or telephone communications for two weeks, was still cut off, Croatian Radio reported, despite a deal to lift federal naval blockade of Adriatic ports.

In the Hague, the European Community reconvened its peace conference on Yugoslavia Monday, keeping up pressure on the warring parties to stick to the latest ceasefire terms and seek a political solution to the crisis.

Yugoslav Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar and Foreign Ministers of the six republics attended the plenary session of the conference.

Detained Burmese opposition leader wins Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO, Norway (R) — Aung San Suu Kyi, under house arrest since 1989 for uniting opposition forces in the struggle to topple Burma's military rulers by nonviolent means, won the Nobel Peace Prize Monday.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee, which awarded the \$1 million prize, commended Mrs. Suu Kyi for "one of the most extraordinary examples of civil courage in Asia in recent decades."

Mrs. Suu Kyi, 46, (pronounced Aung San Soo Chee) was placed under house arrest on July 20, 1989, following a 10-month campaign in which she pressed for democracy and condemned human rights abuses by the military junta.

Her party, the National League for Democracy (NLD), won 80 per cent of the seats in May 1990 elections, but the junta ignored the election results and stepped up persecution of both the political opposition and ethnic minorities.

The committee cited Mrs. Suu Kyi "for her unflagging efforts and to show its support for the people throughout the world who are striving to attain democracy, human rights, and ethnic conciliation by peaceful means.

It was not known if she had any way of learning she had won the peace prize. Mrs. Suu Kyi is not allowed to receive visitors or otherwise communicate with the rest of the world.

Mrs. Suu Kyi is married to British Professor Michael Aris, currently teaching a course on Tibet at Harvard University, and is the mother of two sons.

Burma's rulers have said she may leave the country, but she says she will not unless her return is guaranteed.

She is thus unlikely to be able to travel to Oslo on Dec. 10 to accept the prize. Under similar circumstances, Poland's Lech Wałęsa did not pick up his award in 1983.

After long resisting involvement in politics, the daughter of legendary Burmese independence struggle hero Aung San returned to Burma from Britain in April 1988 to nurse her ill mother, who died later that year.

When General Ne Win, who had controlled Burmese politics since 1962, was forced to resign in July 1988 "it appears as though that was when Mrs. Suu Kyi decided to remain in Burma, enter politics and join the struggle

against the authoritarian regime," the committee said.

She was swept into prominence during a nationwide pro-democracy uprising that fall which the military brutally crushed, killing thousands of protesters.

In an attempt to placate an angry populace, the junta allowed political parties and Mrs. Suu Kyi began her work to forge a United Opposition Front, demonstrating what the committee called "considerable political and organisational talent."

But after months of speeches across the nation, calling for democracy through nonviolent means, she was placed under house arrest, where she remained when the junta allowed the elections it refused to honour.

Subsequently, a number of opposition leaders were imprisoned or forced to flee the country. The United States estimates that Burma's rulers are holding some 2,000 political prisoners.

President Vaclav Havel of Czechoslovakia, himself mentioned as a candidate for the peace prize last year, nominated Mrs. Suu Kyi for this year's prize, saying her nomination would focus attention on human rights in Burma.

Column 10

Princess Diana gets hate mail

LONDON (R) — Britain's Princess Diana has been receiving hate mail over her high-profile campaign to help victims of AIDS and fight public prejudice about the killer disease, a British newspaper has reported. The 30-year-old princess, the popular wife of heir to the throne Prince Charles, is credited with helping raise public awareness about the disease by visiting AIDS clinics and comforting the afflicted. She makes a point of hugging babies with AIDS and holding hands with victims to show that people need not be afraid of infection through casual contact. The AIDS virus, which attacks the immune system, is spread through sexual contact or contaminated body fluids. The Daily Mirror quoted unidentified friends and colleagues of the princess as saying she was shocked and upset by the critical letters, but was more determined than ever to continue her work with AIDS sufferers. Buckingham Palace officials were not available for comments.

Spielberg marries actress Kate Capshaw

EASTHAMPTON, New York (AP) — There were no aliens, swashbucklers or killer sharks at director Steven Spielberg's latest production. He married actress Kate Capshaw at a ceremony at his Long Island estate. Actors Harrison Ford and Dustin Hoffman were among the 100 guests at the tent wedding on the Bank of Georgia Pond. The rehearsal dinner was held Friday night at an Italian restaurant where guests had to say a secret password to attend.

Giant panda gives birth in Peking Zoo

PEKING (AP) — A giant panda at the Peking Zoo has given birth to a cub, the second panda born there this year, the official Xinhua News Agency reported Sunday. Xinhua said the cub, named An An was born on Aug. 22. The mother, 17-year-old Da Dai, has given birth to six cubs since 1980, the report added. China has the world's only wild panda population. But its numbers have plummeted in recent decades to an estimated 1,100-1,500 because of poaching and human encroachment on the panda's habitat. About 100 pandas live in Chinese zoos. Most giant pandas born in captivity, especially those conceived through artificial insemination, die in their first weeks. Scientists do not know why. An An and another giant panda named Ying Ying born earlier in August at the zoo were conceived through natural mating. Xinhua said. An An was the 42nd giant panda born in the Peking Zoo since the zoo began exhibiting pandas in 1955. Eighteen of the pandas born at the zoo have survived. Xinhua reported in September that a panda at the Chengdu Zoo in southwestern China gave birth to a cub after being artificially inseminated.

Cuba gives citizens direct voting rights

"Marti" is a reference to the Cuban writer and politician Jose Marti.

The congress also voted to permit members of religious groups to belong to the Communist Party, Notimex said.

On economic matters, the congress strongly endorsed Mr. Castro's call for foreign investment, especially in tourism.

The widely anticipated action

comes in the wake of Mr. Castro's recent overtures to Western countries about developing the island's beaches for tourism.

Nonetheless, few economic

changes are expected over the

short term that would provide

Cubans with a relief from the

growing shortages of food and

basic materials.

The congress called for a con-

tinuation of the "special period,"

a sign that islanders must simply adapt to their economic difficul-

ties.

Since last year, Cuba has been

on short rations of meat and basic

home products. Its economy has

been shattered by shrinking

Soviet and Eastern European

trade and aid.

The bad news from Moscow

grew even grimmer after the

failed August coup there, when

reform accelerated.

The Soviet Union now plans to

halt grain shipments to Cuba,

tighten up even further on loans

and make drastic cuts in military

sales, the Miami Herald reported last month.

The Soviet republics independence

triggers Tibetan protests

PEKING (R) — Emboldened by moves towards independence by the Soviet Central Asian republics, Tibetan nationalists have launched new protests against Chinese rule of the Himalayan region, official sources have said.

Paramilitary troops forcibly

suppressed four non-violent de-

mocratisations in Lhasa, the re-

gion's capital and traditional cen-

tre of Tibet's independence

movement, in the past few weeks,

Chinese officials and recent visi-

tors said.

The reported killing of a

Buddhist monk in a mid-Septem-

ber protest has helped spread

anti-Chinese unrest, the sources

said.

A official at the Tibet Foreign

Affairs Office in Lhasa, reached

by telephone from Peking, de-

nied the reports. "Social order is

very good," the officials said.

A Tibetan who witnessed a

protest in September said about

15 monks marched in front of the

Jokhang Temple in central Lhasa

shouting: "Tibet for Tibetans;

down with Chinese rule."

"Within seconds, the People's

Armed Police surrounded eight

of the demonstrators, and began

kicking and punching them," said

the Tibetan, who arrived in Pek-

ing recently.

"One monk who was carrying

the Tibetan national flag was

bayoneted repeatedly until he

dropped the flag."

The eight protesters were

taken away in a police truck, he

said. The London-based Tibet

Information Network and the

witness said one protester, a

monk, later died.

Tibet has been rocked by

periodic outbreaks of nationalism

since Chinese troops entered the

region in 1950.



Prof. Anita Hill

Judge Clarence Thomas

Truth elusive as U.S. court nominee hearings near end

WASHINGTON — A wrenching, lurid inquiry into charges of sexual harassment against Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas is unlikely to produce any hard evidence to guide senators when they vote on the nomination.

Three days of televised hearings have failed to answer the question: Who is telling the truth — Thomas, or his former aide Anita Hill?

The truth probably "will never be known in black and white," Senator Herb Kohl, a Wisconsin Democrat, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said.

Both Judge Thomas and Prof. Hill may also return for testimony Monday, Committee Chairman Joseph Biden, a Delaware Democrat, said.

The Senate vote on the nomination, scheduled for Tuesday, is expected to be close and largely along party lines. Democrats have a 57-43 majority.

"I think we're gaining every day, but I think it's a very close call," Senate Republican leader Robert Dole said.

Testifying to the committee Susan Hoerchner, a woman's compensation judge from California and a friend of Prof. Hill, said Prof. Hill told her about sexual harassment after she became an assistant to Judge Thomas.

As the hearings continued Sunday, Prof. Hill submitted to a lie detector